

Minutes
Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing
November 2, 2006

Members Present

Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Chair
Ms. Cynthia C. Mosteller
Mr. Hood Temple
Col. John T. Bowden, Jr.

Members Absent

Mr. Neal J. Workman, Jr.

Staff Present

Dr. Tina Anderson
Dr. Buddy Atkins
Ms. JoAnn Biga
Ms. Julie Carullo
Ms. Renea Eshleman
Dr. Paula Gregg
Ms. Lane Jeselnik
Dr. Lynn Kelley
Ms. Cynthia Mallios
Mr. Clint Mullins

Guests Present

Ms. Susan P. Allen, Greenville Technical College
Ms. Judy Anderson-Kotts, Westwood College
Dr. Richard Chapman, Francis Marion University
Dr. Cheryl Cox, S.C. Technical College System
Mr. Harry Davis, USC-Columbia
Ms. Janet Day, The Art Institute of Atlanta
Dr. David A. DeCenzo, Coastal Carolina University
Mr. Gerry Derksen, Winthrop University
Dr. Christine Ebert, USC-Columbia
Dr. Marilyn Fore, Horry-Georgetown Technical College
Mr. Richard Jerue, The Art Institute of Charleston
Ms. Karen Jones, Winthrop University

Ms. Judy LaBoone, Greenville Technical College
Ms. Lynn LeClaire, Education Management Corp.
Dr. Jeff Lee, Francis Marion University
Dr. Pat Moody, USC-Columbia
Dr. Sally Parsonson, The Art Institute of Atlanta
Ms. Hope Rivers, S.C. Technical College System
Ms. Kathy Romero, Greenville Technical College
Dr. Marilyn Sarow, Winthrop University
Dr. Carolyn Stewart, York Technical College
Dr. Aileen Trainer, USC-Columbia
Ms. Laura Vest, ITT Technical Institute
Dr. Dave Weaver, USC-Columbia
Ms. Linda Weaver-Griggs, York Technical College

Dr. Horne called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and stated that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Consideration of Minutes of September 7, 2006

Mr. Temple **moved** that the minutes of September 7, 2006, be accepted as distributed and the motion was **seconded** by Col. Bowden. The motion was **approved unanimously**.

Dr. Kelley requested that licensing items on the agenda be addressed owing to the travel arrangements of rural institutional representatives present. Without objection, Dr. Horne moved the licensing requests forward.

3. Consideration of Initial Licenses

3.a. Consideration of Request for Initial License for Branch in Charleston, South Carolina, Art Institute of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA

Dr. Horne introduced the item and inquired about the Institute's laboratory fees. Dr. Sally Parsonson replied that the fees vary according to the curriculum. Dr. Horne inquired if the Institute was worried about competing with Trident Technical College. Ms. Janet Day replied that The Art Institute of Atlanta has strong programs and that The Art Institute of Charleston will be able to coexist with TTC. Dr. Horne then asked if the Institute had considered the need for its programs in the area. Mr. Jerue replied that he had met with several hospitality officials in the area. Based on these meetings, he determined that a need exists. Dr. Horne inquired about the Institute's "Ideas of Mathematics" course. Dr. Parsonson explained that Ideas of Mathematics is a college-level course with a combination of statistics, college algebra, and geometry. She said the course is appropriate for students majoring in artistic fields and that the culinary

programs require an additional course in statistics. Without further discussion, it was **moved** (Temple) and **seconded** (Bowden) to accept the staff's recommendation. The Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the request of the Art Institute of Atlanta for an initial license to establish a branch in Charleston, South Carolina to offer programs leading to Associate of Arts degree in (1) Culinary Arts, (2) Graphic Design, and (3) Interactive Media Design; the Bachelor of Science degree in Culinary Arts Management; and the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in (1) Graphic Design, (2) Interactive Media Design, (3) Interior Design, and (4) Photographic Imaging to be implemented in April 2007.

3.b. Consideration of Request for Initial License to Recruit in South Carolina, Westwood College, Atlanta, GA

Dr. Horne introduced the item. It was **moved** (Temple) and **seconded** (Bowden) to accept the staff's recommendation. Dr. Horne opened discussion about the proposal. She inquired about the employment potential for students who would enroll in programs at Westwood. Ms. Judy Anderson-Kotts answered that the need for the programs is not strong in South Carolina but that several South Carolina students had expressed interest in attending the campuses in the Atlanta area. Ms. Anderson-Kotts also noted that, according to the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Universities, the placement rate for the Midtown campus is 82 percent and is 75 percent for the Northlake campus. Dr. Horne also inquired if students are provided internship opportunities, and Ms. Anderson-Kotts answered affirmatively. Dr. Horne asked why Westwood granted quarter credit hours since semester hours do not need to be converted for transfer. She also commented on the length of the program. Ms. Anderson-Kotts replied that the programs are longer because of the number of laboratory hours. She also stated that Westwood is seeking accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and, if granted, will convert its programs to semester hours. Dr. Horne inquired about the number of students who complete their programs, and Ms. Anderson-Kotts replied that an average of 65-70 percent complete. Dr. Horne asked if Westwood's students are eligible for financial aid. Ms. Anderson-Kotts answered that they are eligible for Title IV funding, since Westwood is accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Dr. Horne inquired about the default rate on student loans for students who attend Westwood. Ms. Anderson-Kotts did not have this information, and Dr. Horne requested that this information be sent to Dr. Kelley. Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the request from Westwood College for an initial license to recruit South Carolina residents into the programs leading to the Associate of Occupational Science degree in Medical Assisting; the Associate of Applied Science degree in (1) Computer-Aided Design/Multimedia, (2) Computer Network Engineering, (3) Fashion Merchandising, and (4) Graphic Design and Multimedia; and the Bachelor of Science degree in (1) Animation, (2) Business Administration, (3) Computer Network Management, (4) Criminal Justice, (5) E-Business Management, (6) Fashion

Merchandising, (7) Game Art Design, (8) Game Software Development, (9) Information Systems Security, (10) Interior Design, (11) Visual Communication, and (12) Web Design and Multimedia.

4. Consideration of Request to Amend License for Additional Location in Columbia, South Carolina, ITT Technical Institute, Carmel, IN

Dr. Horne introduced the item. It was **moved** (Temple) and **seconded** (Bowden) to accept the staff's recommendation. Dr. Horne noted that a two-year degree from ITT would cost a student approximately \$41,000. Ms. Laura Vest confirmed that this was a good estimate. Dr. Horne inquired how ITT helped its students afford tuition, and Ms. Vest responded that students are eligible for Title IV funding and a variety of scholarships. Dr. Horne then inquired about completion rates and default rates. Ms. Vest did not know completion rates but stated that the default rate is approximately six to eight percent, though the rate varies by location. Col. Bowden stated that he hopes that in their approval process the CHE staff considers what the 16 technical colleges are offering, especially in regard to associate degree programs. Dr. Kelley responded that the staff is working within the framework of the law and that the staff recommends licensure if a school meets minimum standards as stated by law. Dr. Horne inquired about placement. Ms. Vest responded that each campus has a career services department which provides placement guidance and that there is a national database of job opportunities for ITT graduates; she did not know the percentage of students who are placed. Dr. Horne requested that placement rates and default rates be sent to Dr. Kelley. Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the request from ITT Technical College to amend its license to add a branch in Columbia, South Carolina.

2. Consideration of New Program Proposals

2.a. A.C.T., Telecommunication Systems Management, Florence Darlington Tech

Dr. Horne introduced the item. It was **moved** (Temple) and **seconded** (Bowden) to accept the staff's recommendation. Dr. Kelley noted that changes had been made to the admission requirements on page two to the admission requirements. Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to the A.C.T. degree with a major in Telecommunications Systems Management to be implemented in Spring 2007.

2.b. A.H.S., Physical Therapist Assistant, Horry-Georgetown Tech

Dr. Horne introduced the item. It was **moved** (Bowden) and **seconded** (Mosteller) to accept the staff's recommendation. Dr. Horne commented on the importance of seeking an articulation agreement with MUSC. She asked if Horry-Georgetown Tech had discussed an articulation agreement with MUSC. Dr. Kelley stated that MUSC

expressed support for this program at the most recent ACAP meeting and Dr. Fore has just reported that an articulation agreement with MUSC had been concluded. Dr. Horne thanked both institutions for this good, front work. Dr. Fore asked that the staff paper be amended to show that library materials for the program will be located at the Grand Strand campus, rather than at the main campus. Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to the A.H.S. degree with a major in Physical Therapist Assistant to be implemented in Fall 2007.

2.c. A.H.S., Biotechnology, Greenville Tech

Dr. Horne introduced the item. It was **moved** (Temple) and **seconded** (Mosteller) to accept the staff's recommendation. Dr. Horne inquired about acceptable placement scores. Ms. Kathy Romero responded that Greenville Tech uses standard placement scores. Dr. Horne then noted the program length is 73 credit hours and asked why programs seem to be getting longer. Ms. Romero replied that the extra hours allow for more specialized biotechnology courses to be offered in order to enhance the students' employability. Ms. Judy LaBoone also commented that there are many labs hours for sciences, as well as internships, which lengthen programs. Col. Bowden commented that Claflin University has a well-respected bachelors degree program in biotechnology and asked if the Greenville Tech representative had discussed articulation with Claflin or USC-Columbia. Ms. Romero said they had not discussed articulation with these schools but had investigated classes at Claflin and USC to make sure the courses at Greenville Tech align. She said that Greenville Tech has worked primarily with Clemson on articulation but no articulation agreement has yet been signed. Mr. Temple commented that he had visited Clemson and that Greenville Tech's program seemed to be a good complement to Clemson's bioengineering program. Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to the A.H.S. degree with a major in Biotechnology to be implemented in Spring 2007.

2.d. A.P.S., Criminal Justice Technology, York Tech

Dr. Horne introduced the item. It was **moved** (Mosteller) and **seconded** (Bowden) to accept the staff's recommendation. Ms. Mosteller inquired about the proximity of similar programs in Charlotte. Dr. Carolyn Stewart replied that the closest program, in Charlotte, is 25 miles from York Tech and that students from SC would have to pay out-of-state tuition to attend. Dr. Horne asked why York Tech was proposing this program if it would not meet the needs of the market. Dr. Stewart answered that York Tech had conducted a needs assessment that showed 60 openings per year and that York Tech anticipates 24 graduates from the first class and anticipates meeting employment needs in the future. Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend**

favorably to the Commission the program leading to the A.P.S. degree with a major in Criminal Justice Technology to be implemented in Spring 2007.

Dr. Horne inquired why associate degree programs are sometimes requiring more credit hours than in the past. Dr. Kelley responded that initially associate degrees were often capped at 60 hours but that the hours began increasing approximately 15-20 years ago. He stated that there has been a concerted effort in state legislatures to cap the hours required in two-year programs. Dr. Cheryl Cox added that some accrediting agencies require a certain number of hours in programs and that employers require certain courses be included in programs. She also stated that they were trying to keep numbers down. Dr. Horne asked how many hours students are normally able to transfer. Dr. Cox answered that the number of courses that transfer depends on the program and college to which a student is transferring; she added that most basic general education courses to transfer all four-year institutions. Dr. Horne inquired if course numbering created a problem with transferring courses. Dr. Cox replied that it occasionally does, but noted that coursework from technical colleges typically transfers with ease within similar curricular areas and levels.

2.e. B.S., Middle Level Education, Francis Marion (new)

Dr. Horne introduced the item. It was **moved** (Temple) and **seconded** (Bowden) to accept the staff's recommendation. Ms. Mosteller asked if the shifting of grade levels in education programs was a result of the No Child Left Behind legislation. Dr. Jeff Lee replied that the shift had begun before the new legislation. Dr. Horne noted that a 2.5 GPA is required for admission to the program. Dr. Lee replied that students must also have a 2.7 GPA in order to student teach, and Dr. Paula Gregg commented that these requirements were set by the State Department of Education. Mr. Temple stated that this is a very important program and hopes it will address the need for teachers in the I-95 corridor. Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to the B.S. degree in Middle Level Education to be implemented in Spring 2007.

2.f. B.S., Tourism Management, USC-Columbia

Dr. Horne introduced the item. It was **moved** (Mosteller) and **seconded** (Bowden) to accept the staff's recommendation. Ms. Mosteller asked if this program was offered as a B.S. at other institutions and inquired about the difference between a B.S. and a B.A. degree. Dr. Kelley responded that a B.S. degree program includes typically more math courses and fewer foreign language courses. Dr. Horne inquired about the jobs available to graduates. Dr. Pat Moody replied that the program's focus is on training students for management positions. Ms. Mosteller asked if internships are available in the area for students. Dr. Moody replied that students participate in internships all over the state and the country. Dr. Horne inquired about additional staff or faculty needed for

the program. Dr. Moody replied that nine faculty are in place and that no new faculty will need to be hired. Mr. Temple asked if this program is a segue to graduate programs at USC. Dr. Moody answered that students will be prepared to go into the MBA or other master's degree programs. Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the B.S. degree in Tourism Management to be implemented in Fall 2007.

2.g. B.S., Information Design, Winthrop

Dr. Horne introduced the item. It was **moved** (Temple) and **seconded** (Mosteller) to accept the staff's recommendation. Mr. Temple inquired if this program would enable students to do web design. Dr. Marilyn Sarow answered affirmatively. Dr. Horne inquired if Winthrop was seeking specialized accreditation for the program. Dr. Steve Dannelly replied that because the program will have influences from several academic departments there is no appropriate accrediting body for it. Each contributing department has specialized accreditation. Dr. Horne inquired if Winthrop had discussed articulation with York Tech and Ms. Karen Jones answered that they were waiting for CHE approval to create an agreement but had indeed discussed articulation with York Tech. Ms. Mosteller inquired whether the emphasis of the program is on written or verbal communication. Dr. Sarow replied that students will choose from four specialty areas that vary in emphasis. Ms. Mosteller asked if these students will work in the TV industry. Dr. Sarow replied that current mass media students are going directly into web design positions. Dr. Dannelly stated that many students have inquired about this kind of program and have drifted to other programs to cultivate web design skills. Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to the B.S. degree in Information Design to be implemented in Fall 2007.

2.h. Children's Law Center, USC-Columbia

Dr. Horne introduced the item. It was **moved** (Temple) and **seconded** (Mosteller) to accept the staff's recommendation. At Dr. Horne's request, Mr. Harry Davis explained that the entity, which has existed since 1995, is requesting to change its designation from "office" to "center" so that it may obtain grant money for its programs. Dr. Horne noted that no state appropriation will be requested by this unit until 2011. A discussion ensued on the importance of the programs offered by the Office. The Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the request to transform the "Children's Law Office" to the "Children's Law Center" to be implemented immediately upon approval.

5. Consideration of Proposed Amendment to Regulations Governing Nonpublic Postsecondary Institutions to Require Accreditation

Dr. Horne introduced the item. Dr. Kelley noted that this amendment to the regulations is intended to close a “loop-hole” in the current law which does not require recognized accreditation for in-state, start-up institutions. The amendment would also require a non-degree school to obtain recognized accreditation before it may apply for a license to offer degree programs. Dr. Horne requested a chart detailing which agencies accredit licensed SC institutions. Ms. Eshleman replied that the staff would be able to provide that data. Dr. Kelley inquired whether the staff had received feedback from licensed institutions regarding the amendment. Ms. Eshleman said that the Distance Education Training Council made suggestions regarding language and the Council for Recognized Accrediting Agencies expressed concerns about the Commission making a voluntary process mandatory. Dr. Horne then asked about the legal aspects of requiring accreditation. Dr. Kelley answered that the staff may utilize a member of the Attorney General’s office but that the Commission is responsible for approving changes made to regulations. Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the proposed amendment to the Regulations Governing Nonpublic Postsecondary Institutions to require accreditation.

6. Annual Report on the Academic Common Market, FY 2005-2006

This report was presented for information purposes only. Dr. Kelley noted that Ms. JoAnn Biga compiled the report and thanked her for it. Dr. Horne asked how students who leave the state to attend college are able to keep SC residency. Ms. Biga answered that students are not required to change residency status if they moved to a different state only to attend college. Dr. Horne inquired about the cost of the program to the state. Ms. Biga replied that the cost to the state is limited to the coordinator's time commitment and the fee to participate in the Southern Regional Education Board, which administers the program. Dr. Horne also asked if it was possible to track SC scholarship students who participate in the Academic Common Market to discover if these students return to SC after graduation. Ms. Biga answered that this data is not kept.

7. Adjournment

Dr. Horne thanked those in attendance for the participation and staff for their work.

Hearing no further business, Dr. Horne adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted;
Cynthia Mallios